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Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center "Shaping Kids' Lives"

New Psychiatrist

Dr. Shannon Jones joined EPCC on April 14. She was a member of the Southwestern Indiana Mental Health Center staff prior to coming to EPCC.

Dr. Jones, who is a board certified child and adolescent psychiatrist, hit the ground running – especially in light of the SAMHSA grant activities already underway. She attended the SAMHSA national meeting with the Superintendent, Clinical Director, and Director of Nursing. Her participation in the Boys Town Psychoeducational Model training, along with all clinical staff and administrators on call, was vital to the SOAR (Social Opportunity to Achieve Recovery) program implementation the first week of June.

Dr. Jones has also provided training for staff on medication use and other clinical issues. Her enthusiasm, insight, clinical expertise, and dedication make her a welcome addition to EPCC.

Grant Advisory Team

A state-wide Grant Advisory Committee has been established and met in the spring. This group will serve as an oversight committee for the duration of the grant, meeting at least every six months. Members include: Alma Burrus, DMHA; Ronda Ames, Consumer; David Boes, P&A; Diane Arneson, NAMI; Gerald Evans and Sheriff Stephen Luce, MH Advisory Comm Reps; Mike Morrow and Judy Cole, RSH; Lottie Cook, EPCC; and Tom Andis, Grant Manager.

Jr. League Project in a Day

On Saturday, May 17, volunteers of Junior League of Evansville took on a major project at EPCC as part of the "Project in a Day" program. The grant to EPCC provided donated funds for the project and completion of the project in a few hours.

Members of the group worked in shifts, rotating in and out of the EPCC rehab therapy building to paint the walls, door frames, and doors of the gym area. EPCC Maintenance Repairperson Paul Alldredge was pleased with the group's efficiency and excellent work.

The staff and children of EPCC thank the Junior League for the grant that made this project possible.

Ivy Tech Used for Training

During the weeks of May 12 and May 19, EPCC staff attended off grounds training at Ivy Tech on Evansville's north side. The training was in preparation for the June implementation of the Boys Town Psychoeducational Model, as part of the SAMHSA grant for reduction of seclusion and restraint.

Staff thought the facilities were excellent, comfortable, and definitely conducive to learning the complex material. Special thanks to Dan Schenk for allowing staff to use the facilities and to Martha Seals for making the arrangements.

SAMHSA Grant Activities

The past couple of months have been very busy with grant activities. The Six Sigma Core Objectives were developed, and the required baseline data inventories – FPCI and ISRRI – were submitted to SAMHSA. Extensive data on monthly seclusion and restraint usage from 2003 to 2007 is being compiled to be submitted this fall. Current data will then be submitted monthly until the grant's end.

Administrators on call and all clinical staff attended week-long training in May in preparation for the June implementation of Social Opportunity to Achieve Recovery (SOAR). SOAR utilizes the Boys Town Psychoeducational Model and focuses on teaching and modeling appropriate behaviors that the children can use in any setting all through life. Developing new behavior skills and having enhanced interactions with staff are both expected to positively impact and reduce the use of seclusion and restraint.

A train the trainer session in August will prepare selected EPCC staff to train new hires on SOAR. Trauma Informed Care training by SAMHSA representatives will be provided for all staff in October.

Life Savers Walk

A Life Savers Walk will be held September 27, 2008 in memory of those who left this world too early by means of suicide. The one mile walk will begin at 8:30 a.m. following registration at 8 a.m. It will take place on the grounds of Evansville State Hospital. Registration fee is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. For more information, call Janie Chappell at 812-471-4521.

Community Friends Recognized

On Monday, April 21, a "Thanks for Planting the Seeds of Kindness" reception was held for EPCC's community friends. In the past 12 months, 58 individuals, groups, and businesses supported EPCC through their assistance and generous gifts.

Individual volunteers may serve as members of the Human Rights Committee, a friend, a Foster Grandparent, or interns in Psychology/Social Service or Rehab Therapy. Groups provide seasonal activities such as holiday parties, and Sunday Bible fun, specific projects, special activities, and more. Other groups and businesses donate money and needed items such as toys, arts and crafts supplies, games, community event tickets, and special request items. *EPCC's Community Friends all make a difference in the children's lives.*

Attendees at the reception: Terry Ray Deason, Andra Siesky of Plaza Star Power; Sharon Wilson of Shepherd of the Hills Sunday School; Jo Ann Norman and Della Shiver of Women on Mission; Deannie Hall and Mary Quinzer of Paradise Home Extension. Each attendee received a mini flowerpot candle along with a certificate of appreciation for their contribution to our program.

Community Friends who were unable to attend the reception were mailed a certificate of appreciation.

MISSION

Resolve Needs - Build Strengths

Need to contact us?
Call 812-477-6436 (exts. listed below) or email.

Good News

An unannounced inspection by the Health Department resulted in a perfect score for the EPCC Dietary Department.

EPCC received an award from the Indiana Association on Play Therapy for being an organization that has advanced in play therapy.



We're Ready for Your Referrals

Refer through the assigned liaison from your MHC.

Referral information needed in the referral packet includes:

Psychology Eval with IQ 2-page State Hospital Referral Form CANS Psychiatric Evaluation

Contact Sharon Austin at 812-477-6436, X226

